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The Spectator

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Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

Latest Town Hall addresses campus mental health and sustainability issues

by Kaitlyn Fudge '23
Staff Writer

On Monday Nov. 4 at 7:30 PM, Student Assembly (SA) hosted a Town Hall meeting in the Annex. The two main topics of discussion were mental health and sustainability; these topics were selected by the student body in a poll sent out via email by SA.

While less students turned out for this Town Hall compared to past years, it was evident that those in attendance were passionate about the issues discussed. Most of the E-board from the recently-formed Sunrise Club, which focuses on sustainability and environmental justice, came with posters that detailed potential solutions they believe can address Hamilton's environmental and sustainability efforts.

As part of an effort to engage all attendees in the process of brainstorming solutions to the problems discussed at the Town Hall, every table featured a poster divided into columns that read STOP, START, and CONTINUE; sticky notes were available for people to write down their ideas and paste them under the corresponding categories on the poster. Once students had a chance to think through and write down their ideas, the sticky notes were used to facilitate larger group discussions.

The Town Hall began by focusing on the topic of mental health on campus. Students repeatedly expressed their concerns about the availability of professional counselors on campus, asking, "Why we don't we hire more counselors?" In response, representatives from the administration said that that they hear students' concerns regarding mental health services on campus, but added that these issues will not be solved by simply hiring more staff. Jeff Landry, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, led this portion of the discussion and addressed students' frequently asked questions.

Landry detailed the evolution of mental health services for students on campus, saying previous Counseling Center locations included "the attic on the second floor of the old health center." In addition to taking its place in the new Health and Wellness Center that opened last academic year, Landry said the Counseling Center has grown from "a staff of 3 to a staff of 14 in 5 years." He also highlighted the additional resources available to students, including peer counseling, sound healing, and biofeedback, among others.

In response to students' questions about hiring additional counselors, Landry said, "The plan for us isn't necessarily to hire more counselors, it is to figure out how can we deploy our counselors better, how can we treat our students and make sure they get the resources they need."

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAITLYN FUDGE/ THE SPECTATOR

Some students voiced their desire to see the Counseling Center hire more counselors and diversify its staff.

Some also asked questions about the issue of, in the words of one student, "a lack of persons of color in the Counseling Center." Some described racism they had experienced on campus, and said it was difficult to talk to counselors at times because they felt the counselors often could not relate to the issues they were facing.

In response, Landry said, "We try so hard to fill that need for our students so we make sure when we advertise the position we are advertising in places that we can recruit persons of color into the job.

*see **Town Hall**, page 2*

Klosson '71, ambassador and visiting professor, to lecture on humanitarian crises

by Rose Alarcon '22
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 14 in Room 127 in the Kirner-Johnson Building (KJ) from 4-6 PM, the Government Department will host a talk with Ambassador Michael Klosson '71. Klosson is the Vice President of the not-for-profit organization Save the Children. After completing his education, he pursued a career in foreign service and earned distinguished positions such as Consul General in Hong Kong and Ambassador to Cyprus. Additionally, he has returned to and taught at Hamilton several times as the Linowitz Professor of International Affairs.

The title of his lecture is "Desperate and Displaced: Helping Those in Humanitarian Crises." Ambassador Klosson will discuss the current global displacement crisis affecting refugees and internally displaced persons, in his words, within the "broader context of humanitarian challenges."

According to Klosson, the talk's goals are to show "a picture of world humanitarian crises driven primarily by conflict and the climate crisis, highlight the role of NGOs in this ecosystem, discuss the 12 principles and code of conduct that shape the ideal NGO humanitarian response, drawing mainly from the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Code of Conduct, and then discuss the possible application of these principles to specific situations with student participation."

Among these crises is the Rohingya crisis, in which the Rohingya people "have been persecuted because of racism and religious intolerance," according to Professor Anne Richard, the current Linowitz Professor of International Affairs.

Richard added, "[The Rohingya] were attacked and mistreated by their own government and have fled to neighboring Bangladesh. While Bangladesh is generous to provide shelter, the refugee camps that have been erected are quite precarious and their government has also made clear that they want the Rohingya to return to Burma."

Klosson has also recently visited these refugee camps and has personal experience with the crisis.

On behalf of the Government Department, Professor Richard would like the campus to know that "since graduating from Hamilton, Michael Klosson has been successful in two careers (in foreign service and at a humanitarian organization) and is considered a leader among relief and development agency representatives in Washington, D.C. Students would be wise to come hear him report about global hotspots and to share his tips regarding international careers."

Professor Richard says she realizes that "it can be wearying to hear repeatedly about the seemingly unending number of crises around the world. When the media chooses to cover crises, however, that coverage can mobilize political and diplomatic attention and resources from governments and publics.

"We all need to focus on what can be done to save lives and end suffering. Refugees and other conflict victims tend to be resilient — with even small amounts of aid, they can turn their lives around."

Emma Ritz '20, who is involved in the organization of the event, believes this topic "is becoming an increasingly prevalent problem in the world and it is vital that we learn about it and work to help mitigate it."

All are encouraged to come and listen to Klosson's talk. The Government Department will provide pastries, coffee, and tea.

Divestment from fossil fuels highlights sustainability discussion at Town Hall

*see **Town Hall**, page 1*

We bring persons of color on campus to do the on-campus interviews we offer at an incredibly high rate. The reality is that it's hard to attract persons of color to live in Clinton, New York."

Terry Martinez, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, said Hamilton administrators are actively working to make the campus more inclusive of diverse populations.

"This summer we held a retreat with the senior leadership to really set goals around diversity and inclusion in particular," she said. "Each vice president has come up with a list of goals in his or her areas to help us address some of the issues. We just hosted a program for faculty members on inclusive practices in the classroom and how to minimize bias."

The next part of the Town Hall turned to small groups discussions. Relative to the Counseling Center, some students proposed solutions such as increasing the hours of operation, working to raise additional awareness of mental health issues on campus, and expanding the training opportunities available to help students be effective resources for one another.

The Town Hall's second topic of discussion was sustainability. Karen Leach, Vice President for Administration and Finance, provided details about Hamilton's Climate Action Plan, which includes the College's goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

In the Q&A session with administrators, students expressed concerns for their future stemming from impending climate crises. In response, David Wippman, President of the College, addressed these concerns and shared some specific insight into the administration's views on divestment from fossil fuels.

"Where we part ways a little bit has to do with the utility of divestment as an approach to solving the problem," he said. "We haven't invested new resources in fossil fuel industries in recent years, our investments have been declining, we have about 30 million dollars of the endowment invested in fossil fuels, that's about 3 percent of the total."

Wippman said that, among the Board of Trustees, there is "some skepticism of the practical utility of divestment. I'm not really aware of a really meaningful change to say that if a college like Hamilton divests it will have an actual impact on climate change [...] We are not going to invest in fossil fuels, but we are going to continue to use them on a daily basis ourselves." He added that it is the Board's responsibility to maintain the financial stability of Hamilton, and that, at the time they last considered the issue in 2014, it would not have been in the best interest of the College to divest.

After this discussion, students once again split into small groups and brainstormed various solutions for minimizing Hamilton's impact on the climate. Some solutions included asking professors make their classes completely digital and making cheap reusable water bottles that feature students' art available.

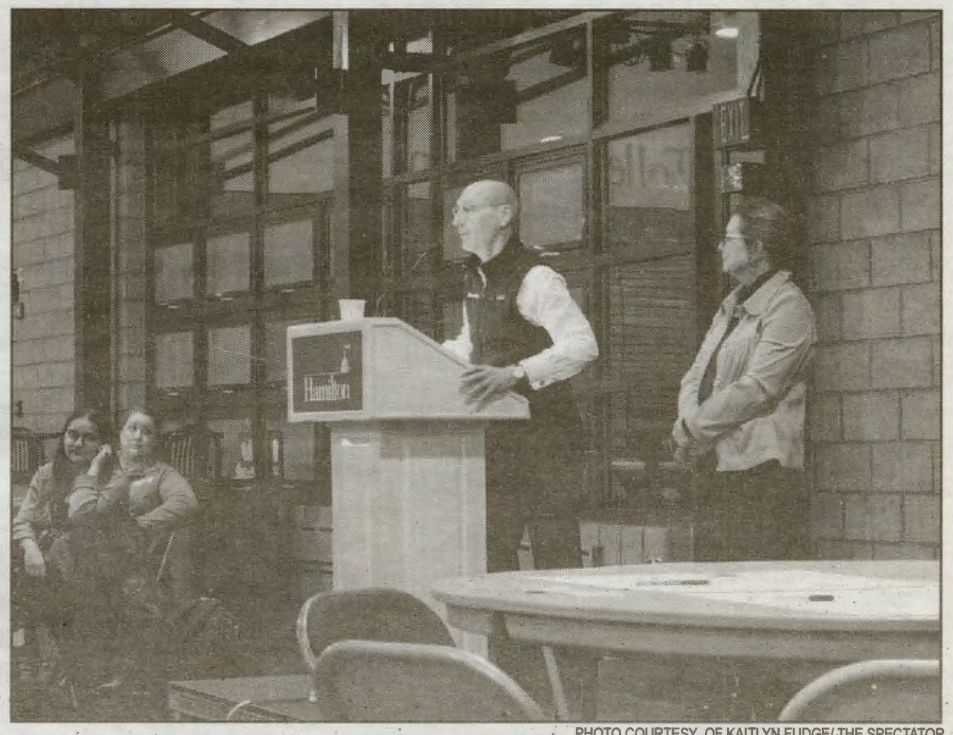

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAITLYN FUDGE/ THE SPECTATOR

President David Wippman (above) spoke about Hamilton's Climate Action Plan and the efforts of the College to reduce its environmental impact. Students also brainstormed sustainability solutions in small groups.

Isha Parkhi '21, an SA representative for her class, provided further details on the reusable bottle proposal, saying, "The bottles could be individualized by having different student artists make different cups [...] so they aren't all the same [...] and selling them at the bookstore at subsidized costs."

Many students hoped that this forum would effect a change in how Hamilton approached its involvement in the climate issue, but some said they left feeling unsure about the lasting impact these conversations would have on administrators and policies of the College. Parkhi also worries that people have "lost hope" and suggested this reasoning as an explanation for why relatively less people attended this Town Hall.

"Conversation should continue," she said, "but we want action."

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

NESCAC NEWS

by Jonina Mignon '21
News Editor

Campus Visitors at Amherst and Bowdoin

On Oct. 3, Amherst College welcomed U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg onto campus for a conversation with the College's President, Biddy Martin. Almost 2,000 students, faculty members, and members of the media attended the event. Justice Ginsburg spoke about her education at Cornell, landmark Supreme Court cases she's been a part of, and her overall experiences as a woman in a male-dominated field over the past sixty years. Ginsburg spoke about the important work that had been done to advance issues of gender equality like Roe v. Wade in 1973 — a case before her tenure as a Supreme Court Justice but nevertheless one that had a significant impact on her career. Ginsburg also noted her own experiences with gender discrimination in employment, especially early on in her career as a lawyer, and described her own work advocating for women's rights through cases like the United States v. Virginia, which struck down a previous male-only admissions policy at the Virginia Military Institute. Lastly, Ginsburg concluded the conversation with a nod to the future, noting her hopes for a more delineated statement of equal rights for women in the Constitution.

On Oct. 29, one week before this year's Election Day, journalist Elaine Weiss visited Bowdoin College to discuss the women's suffrage movement and its lasting legacy on the process and importance of voting. As part of Bowdoin's efforts to increase and promote voting and civic engagement, two organizations on campus, Bowdoin Votes and the Sexuality, Women and Gender Center, as well as the Gender and Women's Studies Department, brought Weiss to campus for a discussion and class meetings. Her book, The Woman's Hour, is assigned reading for several Gender and Women's Studies classes. Weiss discussed how voting, the most fundamental right of a democracy, calls into question exactly who gets to participate and have a voice in a society. During book signings after talking with Bowdoin students and professors, Weiss stated, "After what all these women went through, I am making a big pitch: You have to vote!"

Academic Awards at Middlebury and Williams

Out of twenty-five authors that are up for various awards from the National Book Foundation in different departments of literature, ten are connected to Middlebury College in some way. These authors, many of whom were or are currently fellows or faculty members at Middlebury College's Bread Loaf School of English and the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, have distinguished themselves in various categories of writing, including nonfiction, poetry, and fiction works. Jennifer Grotz, director of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conferences, stated, "We are immensely proud and pleased that the National Book Foundation has recognized the talent of all these individuals." The 2019 National Book Awards are set to take place on Nov. 20 in New York.

Additionally, Williams College senior, Summiya Najam, has just been named a Rhodes Scholar in Pakistan for the year 2020. She is now Williams' 40th Rhodes Scholar since the program began in 1902.

Dean of Students hosts Student Assembly for dinner to discuss campus issues

by Ethan Tse '22
Staff Writer

On Oct. 30, members of Student Assembly (SA) met with Dean of Students Terry Martinez and College President David Wippman for a home-cooked meal and a conversation about the state of Hamilton's student body. Informal meetings between the Dean of Students and members of the student body like these are common.

Whether it's inviting smaller groups to her house for dinner or joining a group of students in Commons, Dean Martinez says she is constantly thinking of ways to interact with students and better understand the issues and conversations of the student body as a whole. Formally, she meets with the President and Vice President of SA weekly and with the Student Affairs committee on a regular basis. Informal meetings with representatives and other student leaders also occur semi-regularly

While SA acts as the official representation of the student body, Dean Martinez says she encourages all students to voice their issues or concerns with her. She believes that some of the disconnect between the administration and the student body stems from students either not feeling comfortable reaching out or not knowing how easy it is to sit down and have a conversation outside of a Town Hall or other formal setting. Still, she says lapses in communication are inevitable as ways in which people are comfortable communicating differ. Some avenues may be more effective than others, but Martinez said she doesn't want people to refrain from speaking up out of fear that their ideas will be shut down or met with heavy resistance.

To wit, in an episode of Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement Travis Hill's podcast *Life on the Hill* released Oct. 6, alumna Meg Bolger '11 described how surprised she was when working with Residential Life to create a more gender-inclusive housing policy. Originally, she and her friends were hesitant to even talk to the administration because they "expected [Res Life] to say no." However, Bolger said they were instead met with enthusiasm and found it was relatively easy to get the administration on board with their proposals.

Though this example highlights a specific example, Martinez says the overarching message is that there is no harm in at least starting a conversation with her or any other members of the administration because you may be met with more support than you expect. She said initiatives like the Bundy Cafe came from students voicing their concerns and subsequent action being taken.

Speaking about the importance of student input, Martinez said, "Sometimes we get the best ideas from students because they have a unique perspective on student life."

First-year and senior representatives have had individual meetings with Dean Martinez, and she says she plans to meet with representatives from the other two class delegations in the near future. She is currently working with first-year students to organize a formal dance for their class.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency, *The Spectator* publishes a selection of the previous week's incidents each Thursday. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* use discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, October 31

1:06 A.M. Noise Complaint– Minor Residence Hall
7:54 A.M. Trouble Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall
1:19 P.M. Trouble Alarm– Kirkland Residence Hall
2:00 P.M. Complaint – On Campus
2:46 P.M. Medical Emergency – Keehn Residence Hall
4:09 P.M. Noise Complaint – North Campus
7:35 P.M. Complaint – Dunham Residence Hall
7:51 P.M. Fire Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
9:01 P.M. Area Check –Root Residence Hall
9:04 P.M. Area Check –Little Squash Courts
9:33 P.M. Area Check –Wallace Johnson Hall
10:01 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
10:01 P.M. Area Check –On Campus

Friday, November 1

4:46 A.M. Fire Alarm – Dunham Residence Hall
12:15 P.M. Complaint – 95 College Hill Road
10:07 P.M. Noise Complaint – Morris House
10:53 P.M. Complaint – Dunham Residence Hall
11:23 P.M. Noise Complaint – North Campus

Saturday, November 2

12:58 A.M. Medical Emergency – Beinecke Village
4:16 A.M. Fire Alarm – Bundy West Residence Hall
9:58 A.M. Medical Emergency – Bundy West Residence Hall
5:00 P.M. Trouble Alarm – Root Residence Hall
11:35 P.M. Noise Complaint –Dunham Residence Hall

Sunday, November 3

12:04 A.M. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Residence Hall
1:13 P.M. Noise Complaint –Babbitt Residence Hall
1:46 P.M. Fire Alarm– Kennedy Arts Center
2:20 P.M. TipNow – 95 College Hill Road
5:53 P.M. Medical Emergency –Dunham Residence Hall
7:43 P.M. Area Check – North Campus
10:15 P.M. Trouble Alarm – ABC House
11:00 P.M. Medical Emergency – Kennedy Arts Center
11:25 P.M. Medical Emergency – South Campus

Monday, November 4

5:00 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
5:20 A.M. Area Check – North Campus
5:48 A.M. Area Check – South Campus
9:02 A.M. Medical Emergency – Wertimer House

Tuesday, November 5

4:25 P.M. Medical Emergency – Kirner-Johnson Building

Wednesday, November 6

3:30 A.M. Trouble Alarm – 1 Anderson Road
11:33 A.M. Concern for Welfare– Kirner-Johnson Building

Pressure to divest growing alongside climate crisis

It is growingly unsustainable and in opposition to Hamilton College's financial interest to remain invested in fossil fuel companies. At Monday night's Town Hall meeting, divestment was one topic of conversation wherein it was noted by President Wippman that, when divestment was considered in 2014, it was determined not to be in the best interests of the College to do so at that time. Also at that time, Hamilton students were participating in environmental advocacy and demonstrating awareness for the climate crisis, just as we are today. In fact, based on some of the responses given at Monday's Town Hall meeting, you might have thought members of the administration were addressing a group of students from 2014. But this is a new generation of students, and 2014 was almost 6 years ago. A number of significant developments in the scientific community and in the global economy have occurred since, and, after Monday's discussion, it appears that some administrators are not up to date.

In the last five years, one climate report after the other has emerged highlighting pressing deadlines needed to be met in order to reverse and/or hamper environmental degradation. On Tuesday, 11,000 scientists signed a research statement declaring a "global climate emergency." This occurred exactly one day after the Town Hall meeting, at which Karen Leach, Hamilton's Vice President for Administration and Finance, stated that "declaring a climate emergency would actually substantially change what we would or when we would do it." Why must our actions be exclusively reactive? Why must we wait until damage is done to modify our behavior? Is that not the attitude that contributed to, and continues to contribute to, proliferation of the climate crisis? The point being that until Hamilton College begins to actively divest in fossil fuel companies, it will continue to be one step behind, catching up to the rapidly changing exigency. This irresponsible behavior is not limited to fossil fuels and climate change and now also applies to Hamilton's endowment financial returns.

Five years ago when the College considered divestment there was not the financial case for divestment which there is now. In recent years, fossil fuel companies have been lagging in the economy and in world stock markets. This is therefore a call for financial prudence and responsibility as much as a call for environmental consideration. As the fossil fuel sector shrinks, predictions are based on growing evidence that the fossil fuel sector will not replicate the same returns as has in the past. Over the past five years, holdings have outperformed identical indexes without fossil fuel companies. These companies are lagging, falling out of favorable opinion among investors and the general public. This is why (another development within the last five years) the University and California system in its entirety fully divested its endowment and its pension fund this semester.

As for the "utility" of divestment for countering climate change — which was also mentioned, called into question, and downplayed on Monday night — new developments in the last five years have also proven that divestment's utility, when undertaken collectively, is not good for fossil fuel companies.

If President Wippman and the Board of Trustees intend to stand behind the decision to dismiss divestment made in 2014 by Hamilton Trustee Investment Committee Chair Henry Bedford, as they did at Monday night's meeting, they should better provide the College at large with an explanation for the financial rational, which appears to the rest of us (and to colleges and universities around the country) to be growingly illegitimate.

Sincerely,
Melanie Snyder '20
Senior Editor

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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DREW ANDERSON '21
OPINION COLUMNIST

The Elephants in the Room

Let's talk about the elephants in the room. Or, more accurately, the Republicans in the House of Representatives. Since the start of the impeachment inquiry into President Trump, GOP leadership has run an astounding disinformation campaign. Their attacks are not only misguided, but they endanger the institution of impeachment itself.

Since the start of the inquiry, Republican lawmakers have insisted that the inquiry has been a biased, unfair process. Every day, Republican politicians appear on cable news to try to convince Americans that the process is tainted. President Trump's son, Donald Trump Jr., declared on Tuesday that the Democrats are using "Gestapo tactics," and that they only want "to try and overturn an election because they don't like the results."

Countless GOP House members have claimed that the lack of a vote in the initial phase of the impeachment inquiry is unconstitutional. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) called the Oct. 31 inquiry vote a "sham." House Minority Whip Steve Scalise (R-LA) stood on the House Floor on the day of the vote and said, "This is Soviet-style rules." In a press conference following the vote, Liz Cheney (R-WY) attempted to discredit the accumulated testimony built up since the impeachment inquiry began. Her logic was that "the Democrats cannot fix this process [because] they've now created a record over the course of the last several weeks with witnesses they selected." She went on to claim that Republican members were unable to question witnesses or view transcripts from the secret depositions.

These mischaracterizations of the impeachment inquiry threaten the very procedure of impeachment itself. They discredit the constitutional process by which evidence of Donald Trump's alleged abuses of power have been brought to light. As American constitutional scholar and Harvard Professor Laurence Tribe said last week, "We're now dealing with something that so dramatically and obviously exemplifies the very heart of what a high crime and misdemeanor is that the lesson that will be taught if this president is not removed by the Senate after being impeached by the House is that nothing counts as a high crime and misdemeanor."

"Despite what we've heard from the GOP, Republican representatives on these committees have been allowed their fair share of time to question witnesses."

For anyone with little understanding of the trappings of the U.S. House, the Democrat-led investigation might seem like foul play. But what Republicans are banking on Americans not understanding is that Congressional committees constantly take up investigations and hearings independent of votes of the whole House.

Most of the House of Representatives' operations run through its 20 permanent committees, which perform most of Congress's legislative, oversight, and administrative tasks. When it comes to oversight, Committee Chairs exercise the discretion of investigating allegations, issuing subpoenas to witnesses, and preparing reports of their findings. Importantly, committee chairs have the right to exercise these powers in advance of any formal resolution by the full House authorizing proceedings.

But Republican deceit belies the House rules themselves. In contrast to GOP claims about the proper path for impeachment, Jefferson's Manual, the first American book of Congressional parliamentary procedures, provides several routes for impeachment to be set in motion. An impeachment inquiry may be initiated through charges brought forward on the floor, a resolution referred to a committee, or a message from the president himself regarding any civil officers of the United States.

Another way — the route that Democrats' chose for their impeachment inquiry into President Trump — is to develop facts through House Committees' investigations.

Instead of calling this process "unfair" when, in fact, it is being performed within the scope of the House Rules, critics of the inquiry should note the actual differences between this impeachment inquiry and past presidential inquiries.

Democrats' route to the impeachment inquiry this year differs from the methods the House used to investigate President Clinton in 1998 and President Nixon in 1974. Both of those investigations were initiated by an Attorney General's appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate allegations, and then House votes were taken to begin a formal impeachment process.

Instead of an initial investigation led by a special prosecutor, in today's inquiry, three House panels are investigating allegations of abuses of power by President Trump.

Contrary to Republican rhetoric, the House Rules permit this type of investigation. An investigative inquiry by committees does not require a vote of the whole House. It's the Committees' Democratic Chairs' prerogative to hold these investigations. A committee's majority may call witnesses for depositions and control the scope and direction of an investigation.

Despite what we've heard from the GOP, Republican representatives on these committees have been allowed their fair share of time to question witnesses. And what the GOP won't say in their deception campaign: the Clinton and Nixon investigations also had closed and open testimony.

Republicans weren't complaining about the majority's control over committee investigations from 2014 to 2016, when Rep. Trey Gowdy led the Select Committee on Benghazi in an investigation of the 2012 Benghazi attack. Back then, Democrats clamored for the release of a private deposition transcript, while even some Republicans accused that committee of partisanship.

Then-Representative and now Secretary of State Mike Pompeo talked about the necessity of holding the private deposition of Hillary Clinton advisor Sidney Blumenthal in order to learn about his role in U.S. foreign policy and "how it impacted decisions related to security."

Now Secretary Pompeo finds himself embroiled in the middle of a Congressional investigation. He's been lambasted for his failure to defend his own State Department appointees as they've been attacked by President Trump over their testimony regarding the president's quid pro quo demands to President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine.

So the tides have turned, and just as in the past, the majority charges forward while the minority mourns its lacking powers.

But one look through the House rules disproves frequent Republican claims that the impeachment inquiry wasn't legitimate until the whole House voted on it. Though the impeachment inquiry might break from precedent, it does not break the rules.

Considering iOS 13: Dark Mode and gender-neutral emojis are welcome additions

by Talia Rosen '23
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

What is the first thing you do when you wake up and the last thing you do before you go to bed? For most of us the answer is probably the same: we check our phones.

Our iPhones have become a large part of our daily lives; they are a way to keep in contact with friends and stay updated on news. Yet, when the notification pops up that a new update is available, we either ignore it or click it without thinking about the actual new features that will come with the new iOS software. Still, in the past few weeks, there has been more buzz than usual about iOS 13 and its new features.

One of the major changes in iOS 13 is the addition of Dark Mode, which everyone either loves or hates. Around campus, many students talked about how they preferred it because it is potentially less damaging to their eyes or simply because of the aesthetic, as the white background of apps changed to black.

Personally, I tried Dark Mode out for about a week but I just could not get used to it. I found myself feeling like it wasn't my phone and after this test run, I decided to switch back to Light Mode. It was dark and depressing to look at my black iMessages or Instagram feed, and I didn't feel like it improved my experience on my phone.

There has also been a lot of discussion about the addition of gender-neutral emojis and mixed-race couple emojis, two of the most important and much-needed new features of iOS 13. These additions have long been called for by many members of these communities, and rightly so. iPhone users can now find any desired skin tone combination of the couples emoji, along with any gender combination as well. Apple is definitely moving in the right direction by giving better representation to all types of relationships.

Many of the gendered face emojis now have a gender neutral option, with the person wearing gray clothes rather than pink or blue. The haircuts on the emoji are neither long nor short and do not indicate conventional markers of gender. In addition, emojis with people in wheelchairs were among the new additions, giving more representation to communities of people with disabilities. Although it took Apple a while to get here, I am pleased to see even a small change in our digital world. Emojis may play a small part in most of our lives, but I see this as just the start of future change in creating a larger voice and platform for all societal groups.

Although in the grand scheme of things these changes to emojis may not seem very large, the small changes can make the biggest differences, especially considering how often we use our phones.

As Apple continues to improve their systems, they give us even more to look forward to with the next iOS updates.

SMART's efforts emphasize survivor activism and healing

by Katherine Barnes '20
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

I have been a member of Survivors Making Activism and Radical Transformation (SMART) since its inception three years ago when Charlotte Bennet '17 held the Title IX office accountable for the mismanagement and misrepresentation of her Title IX reports and the points her perpetrator received in 2016. Since then, SMART has been working tirelessly to not only continue to hold the College accountable, but make the larger campus community aware of the issue of sexual assault and create a space for survivors on campus to have a voice.

Last Tuesday, SMART continued our goal to educate the campus and support survivors: we set up our art installation outside of Howard Diner on Martin's Way; the installation represented the Clery Report on the number of reported rapes on campus. This report is different from the Harassment and Sexual Misconduct Board (HSMB) report that we get from Title IX because it is a federally-mandated report. The Clery Report is confusing to read and understand, which led to the misreading of the number of reported rapes on campus and SMART's subsequent correction email.

While many students and SMART's leadership agreed that no matter the number, one rape on campus was too many, the Office of Community Standards (which handles Title IX) was quick to latch on to the mistake and insert themselves into our narrative. Director of Community Standards Catherine Berryman sent a long-winded email filled with legal jargon, making what we interpreted as the assumption that not only were we uneducated activists, but also that an activist group in support of — and made up of — survivors was in need of the assistance of the Title IX Coordinator, without having seen or engaged with the installation.

While she and Dayna Campbell mean well and are both new to campus, many students — particularly seniors — remember the years in which we experienced distrust and false information provided by previous Title IX Coordinators. In addition, there is a historical and institutional issue with Title IX offices nationally not fulfilling their duties. They often do little to stay trauma-informed and actively support survivors, as seen in countless cases across the country and highlighted in documentaries like *The Hunting Ground*. As an organization, we implicitly cannot and will not trust anyone who holds the position of Title IX Coordinator until there is active work put in — independently — to be trauma-informed, intersectional, restorative, and healing-focused. Until then, SMART and survivor organizations nation-wide will hesitate to trust institutions and Title IX.

SMART continues to believe, and will always believe, that our organization is better off self-educating than relying on the institutional structure that has perpetrated many of the mishandlings, misrepresentations, and retraumatization of many of the survivors on this campus, no matter who holds the title of Title IX Coordinator/ Community Standards Director. Beyond that, I personally have been working with SMART and learning about these laws for three years. I trained as a rape crisis counselor in the state of Massachusetts and attended online seminars with rape crisis centers and advocacy groups. The mistake in the email was made not from a lack of education but from a lack of clarity in the report, an issue that is not just here at Hamilton, but also across the nation.

While the Office of Community Standards had focused on the very easy mistake made by SMART, students were able to see the very real message of the art installation: we have a problem on this campus and we need to start humanizing the numbers. It is not just thirteen reports. Those are thirteen people who many of us may know but do not know how to help or support. And those are just the reported numbers.

As a survivor myself, I feel it is deeply healing to personify the statistics. To create people using the actual outline of my own body and lay them out on Martin's Way reminds people: "We are not numbers. We exist. You walk by us every day. Start caring." Knowing that my physical body, which was once violated and is still a daily battleground, was able to help spread a beautiful and powerful message to the campus to show survivors that SMART sees them — truly sees them — is more important to me than I can possibly put into words.

One of the most important things for a survivor to be set on the path to healing is being given power and control back in their lives. There is nothing more powerful than using my own body with the help of my beautiful fellow SMART chairs to create such a vital message for the campus. I went back to my room at 6:45 AM after creating the installation and cried tears of joy from the experience.

SMART will continue to use activism and education to teach the campus at large about the prevalent issue of sexual assault here and across the nation and how to support a friend in need. Most importantly, SMART will continue to be a site of politicizing the healing process for survivors, returning the agency back to survivors in ways that create conversation and community. SMART will always see survivors because many of us are.

We believe you and we will always be here for you.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX REBOREDO '22

The environmental costs of the fast fashion industry

by Gabriela De Mendonca Gomes '23
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

As a college student, price tags mean everything to us. With little to no disposable income, our age bracket is constantly searching for cheap clothes that align with the ever-changing styles of the market as well as our own personal styles. Unfortunately, big sales, cheap megastores, and the fast fashion industry are detrimental to labor equality and the environment. Given America's consumer culture, fast fashion's consequences are at an all-time high.

The documentary *The True Cost* pulls back the curtain on who actually pays the cost of the clothing we wear. In the 1950s and 1960s around 90 percent of the clothing worn by Americans was made in the United States. Today it is less than 3 percent. Trends are not dependent on the season anymore, but rather on the week. More clothing is produced now than ever before. Consumer clothing costs have decreased throughout the past few decades, yet the prices of making clothing has stayed relatively the same. Wages have been squeezed in this equation.

Major retailers like Forever 21, Uniqlo, and H&M are partially responsible for driving down wages. These businesses tend to move their factories abroad, where there are minimal manufacturing regulations. This immunizes business from responsibility. The consequences of outsourcing to unregulated factories is catastrophic, as demonstrated in the Savar building collapse of Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2013. The factory, which employed mostly women, mistreated workers with long hours, exposure to toxic chemicals, and various forms of physical abuse. The degradation of the factory building and lack of care for workers led to over 1,000 avoidable deaths.

These practices' effects on workers are both mental and physical. In parts of northern India, chemical runoff from shoe processing plants cause jaundice and cancer in surrounding communities. Workers are forced to do menial work for extended periods of time, barely making enough for their families' survival. Sweatshop workers have been known to committ suicide in certain cities as a way to escape their difficult life circumstances.

The proposal to move factories back to the United States would not solve most of the pressing issues. Workers abroad would not be able to make ends meet without outsourced jobs from western corporations, so they would fall further into poverty. Additionally, the treatment of workers in the United States should not be placed on a pedestal. In fact, they often mirror conditions overseas. Los Angeles, California is an important city for the garment industry. However, with a fair number of undocumented immigrants, factories are often unregulated and follow the model set by sweatshops abroad. Workers in the underground LA garment industry are paid $1, $2, or $3 an hour without overtime compensation. It's clear that where garments are made does not necessarily ensure fair treatment or safe environments. As consumers, it is our responsibility to educate ourselves on how our clothes are made, who makes them, and where they are coming from. It is also our job to put pressure on fashion companies who are overproducing clothes, squeezing laborers in the process, and leaving an irreversible environmental footprint.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THREDUP

The clothes that we buy have larger ethical implications than we realize, writes De Mendonca Gomes '23.

Bachelorette & Bachelorette

Elizabeth Ely '21

PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZZIE ELY '21

Hometown: *New York City.*
Home on Campus: *Bundy Quad.*
Major: *Government and Theatre.*
Turn on? *Democratic-socialism.*
Turn off? *Lightside boys that eat 9 hard boiled eggs for breakfast.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Dunham, because I'm a sh*thole.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Elton John and Richard Wagner. I don't want to explain.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Great taste, less filling." (Miller Lite)*
What TV genre best describes you? *Anime.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *The Chevy Silverado line of pickups.*
What's your type? *AB Positive.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Money. Cash. Hoes.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Diner B.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *Applebees.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *MOHASA.*
What's your patronus and why? *A little boy. Again, I don't want to explain.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Two students receiving six points each for burning incense in their room and allowing a guest to smoke marijuana in the room.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Invasive, elective surgery.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Indianapolis.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Ben Leit.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Doc Woods, easily.*
What would your perfect date be? *Whatever Ben tells me.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *Adriana Mullin.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Being spotted at a Hamilton College football game.*
Lights on or lights off? *Just the reflection of my pale ass in the moonlight.*
Favorite campus study spot? *Opus! Or, the bathrooms in Commons.*

Caroline Boyd '23

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE BOYD '23

Hometown: *Richmond, V.A.*
Home on Campus: *The glen.*
Major: *Literature or Government.*
Turn on? *Glasses.*
Turn off? *Vineyard Vines.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Keehn... but I live in North and I am having an identity crisis because I think I'm a darksider living among lightsiders?*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *The Lonely Island because my alter ego is a middle school boy and Bob Dylan when he had unruly hair because I too have unruly hair.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Got milk?"*
What TV genre best describes you? *Live comedy shows such as SNL because who KNOWS what happens between the delay and the bleep. Not me.*
What's your type? *French bois who wear sweaters.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Aquareef deodorant, art museums, spotted dogs.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *I usually just scale the chapel, like Spiderman, and perch atop the weathervane. It's peaceful up there.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Spectator, call me. ;)*
What's your patronus and why? *Pottermore says it's an otter, but it's probably like a pigeon.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Someone recently told me the manhole covers here are made of valuable iron and aren't locked... I would harvest them and sell them for riches beyond belief.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Tunafish sandwiches!*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The patriarchy!*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *I guess I dig the mascot's soft, plush body, but don't tell him I said that.*
What would your perfect date be? *Take me to Buffalo Wild Wings.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *15 pairs of clout goggles*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Not leaving enough room for Jesus.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *Vegetable gogo squeezes because they're an acquired taste but they're worth it I swear.*

DMC's 'What is' series aims to foster productive dialogue on topical issues

by Evan Robinson '23
Contributing Writer

On Wednesday Nov. 13, the Days-Massolo Center (DMC) will hold an open discussion session centered around climate justice as a part of their ongoing 'What is' series.

'What is Climate Justice?' will be the first installment of this year's 'What is' series, followed by two more tentatively-planned discussions for the spring semester. In past years, sessions have dealt with such topics as racism, gerrymandering, hate speech, and fake news. Considering the prominence of environmental issues in current news — which sparked a demonstration at Hamilton less than two months ago — climate justice was selected as the focus of the upcoming fall session. To qualify the international attention recently given to climate change and its consequences, the 'What is Climate Justice?' discussion is seeking to concentrate the efforts of attendees on more local, accessible measures.

With this in mind, the event will feature all Hamilton organizations that address climate justice, to provide interested students with opportunities to make meaningful impacts on the local community. The series strives to bring broader issues into a more accessible context, and the inclusion of environment-affiliated clubs should aims to turn discourse into action. No outside research will be required for passionate students to engage themselves firsthand with climate justice.

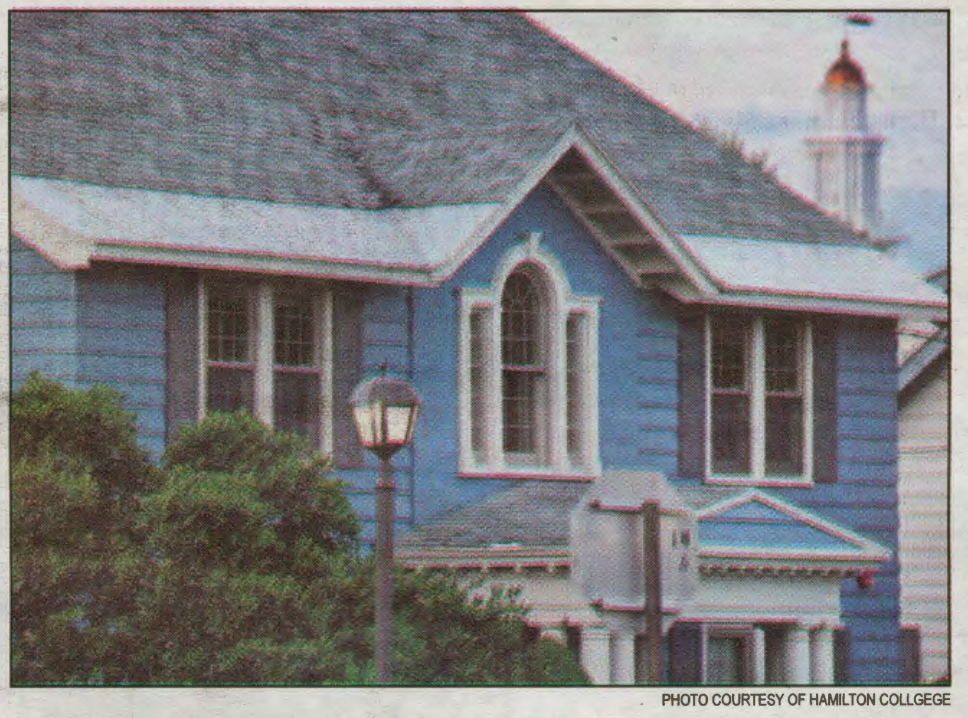


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLGEGE

The Days-Massolo Center's 'What is...' series allows students to learn about issues they are passionate about.

The 'What is' series represents a co-curricular extension of the DMC's work. Although topics such as climate justice are afforded student interest through schoolwork, their importance does not depend on the setting in which they are discussed. Paola Lopez, director of the DMC, identified bringing these conversations into "everyday discourse" as a key goal of the 'What is' series. Part of this comes from the establishment of a space where attendees not only feel comfortable expressing their own beliefs, but are also willing to consider those with which they may disagree. "All I'm asking is for people to think," Lopez said.

Unlike previous 'What is' discussions, which were led by faculty, students with knowledge and experience relevant to the topic of climate justice will facilitate next week's session. Lopez described this change as reflective of a desire to make the sessions more impactful for the student body, by "[giving] agency to the student voice." Student leaders involved with activism or research in the field will design and shape the conversation with optional guidance from faculty members — who will serve more of a "phone-a-friend" role in the process, said Lopez.

The goals of the 'What is' series parallel the broader purpose of the DMC. Encouraging student engagement with co-curricular issues, exemplified by the decision to shift control of the discussions away from faculty, fits well with the DMC philosophy of supporting student-planned, student-run activities. Recently, the DMC worked with the Black Latinx Student Union, La Vangaurdia, and Grasping Roots to coordinate a Day of the Dead event with an emphasis on education — "what actually is Day of the Dead, versus like Coco," explained Lopez. The DMC takes on more of a guiding role with such events, deferring to the students for organization and execution.

Looking forward, the DMC hopes to maintain the student-led model for the spring semester's 'What is' discussions — though of course, it depends on the success of the fall session, and how the student leaders respond to the increased responsibility and independence. By "engaging different voices, [and] different speakers," Lopez hopes that students will find genuine value in the series, and be able to carry and apply its content far beyond Hamilton.

From Where I Sit:
The Morning of November 1st, 2019
Hamilton's International Perspectives Column

by Sosina Abuhay '23
Contributing Writer

Amidst the leafless branches of trees and the memory of numerous fat squirrels which have started to disappear from fear of winter, I struggled to push my legs against the strong opposing wind one step at a time. Depending on how crowded Martin's Way is, it usually takes me thirteen minutes to walk from my room to class in the morning. Something about the morning of Nov. 1, maybe the cold, empty sky or the fallen, bright leaves which will soon vanish, made me more aware of my existence. Neither the cold earth nor the colder air above the earth seemed to have any life in it, except for mine.

Remembering what I heard from people saying, "It was already snowing last year at this time...," I foresaw the vast snow that will soon sit extremely quietly, covering the field. Suddenly, I heard the warm blood pulsing through my veins. These contrasting moments of sensing life and its absence made me feel like a light passing through complete darkness, where one is more aware of the light simply because of the darkness that surrounds it.

However, these moments of realization dawning on me early in the morning were strictly concerned with my own existence, and not that of others. In fact, it seemed the more vividly I was aware of my being, the less I acknowledged that of others. I saw continuous blocks of flesh, not one distinct from the other; I saw people's faces hidden behind hooded-jackets and the definite outlines of their bodies concealed underneath thick winter coats. Everyone looked the same. And as far as I was concerned, everyone, except for me, was the same. But just as I was about to sink too deeply into these thoughts, sharp freezing jets of wind enveloped me.

So, I put my hands in my pockets, shivered a few times, then walked towards Kirner-Johnson Building, where my 9 a.m. class awaited. A sudden gust of warm air greeted me as I entered the building. Class was about to start, so I quickly took a seat in the back row and looked at the quote of the day: "Everyone is a moon, and has a dark side which he[she] never shows to anybody" (Mark Twain.) It seemed as if the professor read my mind and intentionally chose that quote to further complicate the philosophical thoughts I woke up with that morning. The professor always begins her lectures with a short explanation of the quote to warm-up our critical minds for the day, then continues by making a light joke about whoever gets to class late.

A few minutes into the lecture, there was a brief pause when students brought forth questions they had encountered while doing their homework. Some students, in an attempt to better communicate their questions, go as far as to recap their entire experience of doing their homework, sparing no detail. On any other day, hearing this would be tiresome to me, but that day, I was intrigued.

Knowing that someone else had faced the same questions I had faced and how we, more or less, shared the same experiences made me feel ordinary, in a good way. Sitting in the classroom, I saw my classmates — who are from more than six different countries — with their faces fully uncovered and vaguely hinting at what their lives have been like, and the posture of their bodies expressing their unique personalities. I felt their existence as much as I felt mine. Before I came to class, I perceived others merely as outsiders with an ordinary past. But I found refuge from these thoughts in the classroom, where I sat close to other people, laughed at their thoughtfully crafted corny jokes, and listened to their unique stories. This is the beauty of being in ESOL class at Hamilton College.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SOSINA ABUHAY '23

'From Where I Sit' is a column dedicated to the voices of international students, immigrant generation students, and students from families where English is not spoken at home.

Circle Magazine's artisan flea market showcases student artists

by Claire Goldstein '22
FEATURES EDITOR

Opus 1 was transformed into a buzzing market place on Nov. 1 for *Circle Magazine's* artisan flea market. Vendors at the flea market sold a range of art pieces and all are artists from the Hamilton community. Artisans who participated received all the profits, as *Circle Magazine* only organized and sponsored the event.

The market featured five vendors, selling a wide variety of pieces including, handcrafted jewelry, personal artwork, buttons, and zines of poetry, prose, and nonfiction. Kathryn Kearney '21, the current Editor-in-Chief of *Circle Magazine*, was thoughtful in the selection process of vendors. "We came to choose these five vendors because we wanted to have a varied range of items to offer to students," Kearney explains.

She notes the inspiration for the event was the student artists themselves, "We felt it was important to highlight student artists, writers, and creatives by providing them with the opportunity to sell their work on campus and to encourage other students to support one another."

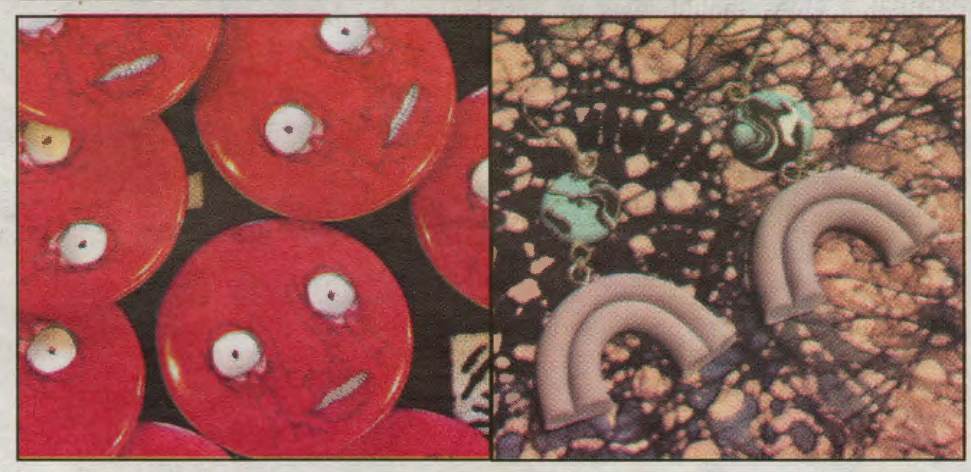
Circle Magazine's goals for the event were fulfilled by both the artists and the customers. "I liked [the flea market] because there aren't many opportunities or students to support each other," comments attendee Ian Bernstein '22. Bernstein not only showed face at the event but also got involved and purchased multiple items. "I bought two sets of handmade earrings by Amy Harff '21, not only because I liked them, but I also wanted to support Amy in her future endeavors as an artist," said Bernstein.

Artist Fred Sciarappa '23 sold his fun pins at the market. Sciarappa commented on the importance of events like this, "I think there is a lot of talented students here who aren't always art majors and I think it is important to give everyone a space to show their work."

In addition to the publicity for the artists, *Circle Magazine* also publicized their most recent online edition. The third online edition published features art from some of the vendors at the flea market. This probably won't be the last event of this nature for *Circle Magazine* as Kearney explains, "We hope to do something similar in the spring but also with some local vendors to bring central New York businesses to campus." Be sure to keep an eye out for that event this spring. In the meantime check out *Circle Magazine's* online issue on their website, https://circmagonline.com/.

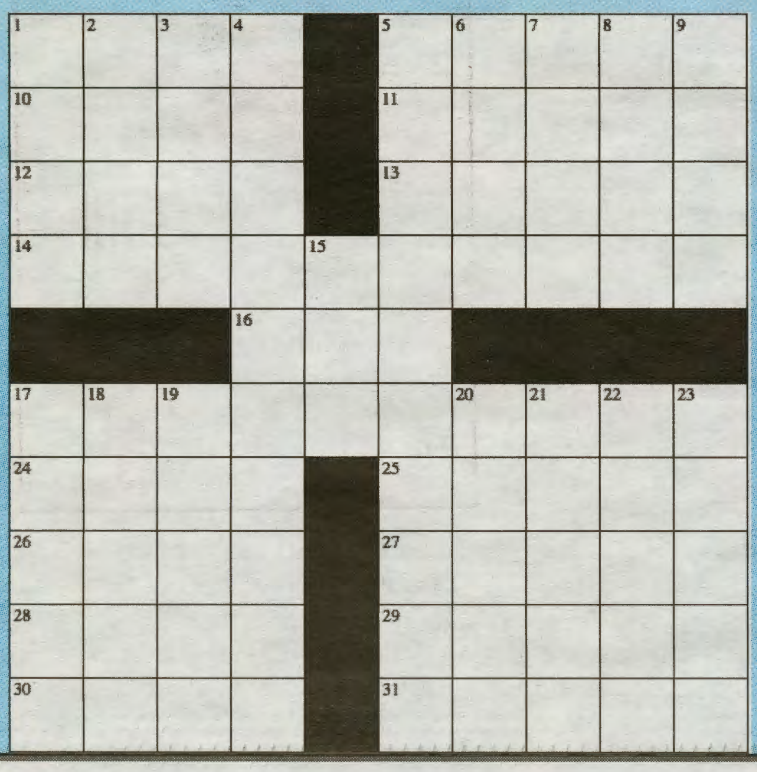
PHOTOS COURTESY OF CIRCLE MAGAZINE

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIA SCHIEL



Mia Schiel '22, who sold her handcrafted jewelry at the market, shows off a variety of her earring designs. Left: pins by Fred Sciarappa '23. Right: Earrings by Mia Schiel '22.

Crossword Puzzle



Across
1. Stefani Germanotta's stage name
5. University in Amherst, colloquially
10. 3 strokes on a short hole
11. Heavy jacket
12. Grandiose
13. The subject of a joke often walks down a dark one
14. The Eve that Halloween is named after
16. Sick
17. King of Kings
24. Fight like the French?
25. With an "n" on the end, a jazz mode
26. Affectionate
27. Rupert who plays Ron Weasley
28. A diminutive suffix
29. The part on which a door rotates
30. Cereal grasses combined with seeds to make their namesake bread
31. Views on a matter

Down
1. Goddess of the Earth
2. Eastern US mountain range, abbr.
3. Groundbreaking African-American actress Fischer
4. Greek mathematician whose last words were "don't disturb my circles,"
5. Coffee ice cream flavor often at McEwen or Commons
6. Shopping complex
7. Woody Guthrie's son
8. Mess with expected results
9. The most common dialogue tag
15. With "carte", ordering menu items individually
17. Trade deal proposition
18. Polish currency
19. Matchmaker in Fiddler on the Roof
20. See 25 Across
21. Permanent, one could say
22. Celtics' GM
23. Fulfills an urge

Oprah's Book Club review: *The Water Dancer*

by Lelan O'Brien '23
A&E Contributor

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE VERGE

The ubiquitous Oprah Winfrey and Ta-Nehisi Coates discuss the author's new book, *The Water Dancer*, at the Apollo Theater in New York City on Sep. 23.

On Sept. 23, Oprah Winfrey announced that *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates was her first pick for the newly relaunched Oprah's Book Club. In partnership with Apple, Winfrey rebuilt her book club through Instagram platform @oprahsbookclub to find a new, modern way to reconnect with readers.

This new version of the book club requires fans to buy the book and follow the Instagram account; the account guides readers on how to participate. Staffers from Winfrey's television network, OWN, and her magazine, *The Oprah Magazine*, posted on @oprahsbookclub throughout the month, including a weekly suggested reading schedule. Each Monday from Sept. 29 to Oct. 27, Winfrey posted videos on the Instagram account to share her thoughts on the reading. She ended the videos by posing discussion questions for readers to respond to in the comments section. After readers contributed with their thoughts, they were encouraged to respond to other readers' comments to facilitate discussion. Even Oprah herself would occasionally chime in. After readers finished their final reading on Oct. 27, Apple TV+ broadcasted Winfrey's hour-long interview with Coates on Nov. 1.

Ta-Nehisi Coates is a professor, journalist, advocate, and now, novelist. His work focuses on African American history, and many cultural and political issues surrounding race in our nation today. Some of Coates's notable works include his non-fiction best seller *Between the World and Me* (which earned a National Book Award), author of the *Black Panther Comic Books*, his essay "The Case for Reparations," and a speech he gave at a congressional hearing on reparations earlier this year.

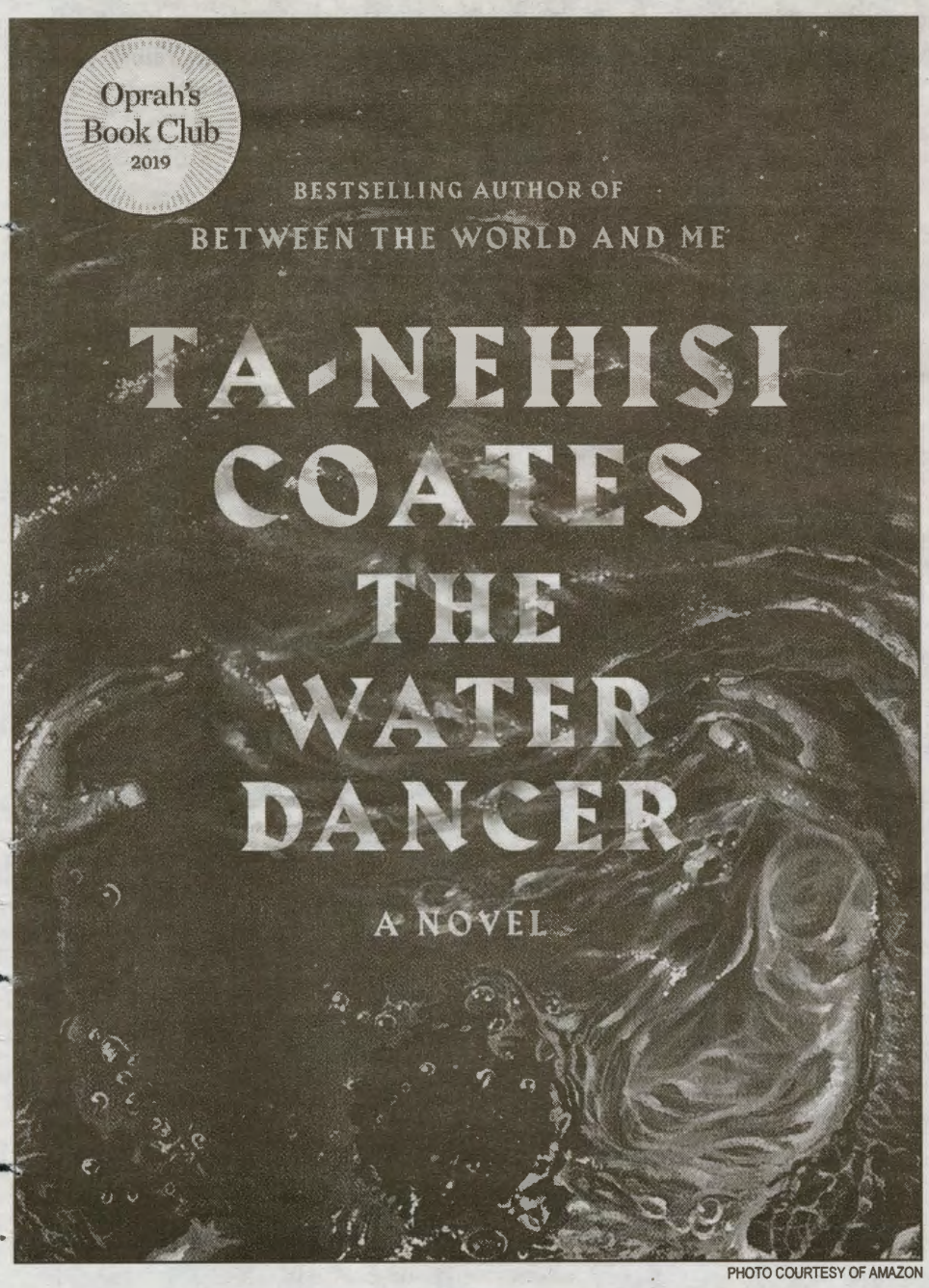


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON

Oprah Winfrey's latest pick for the relaunch of her Book Club is The Water Dancer by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

The Water Dancer follows biracial enslaved man Hiram Walker through his journey to find freedom. His father is a white plantation owner, who enslaved his mother. Hiram lives on his father's plantation called Lockless in Virginia during the middle of the nineteenth century. Hiram has a special gift for memory—he can recall any minute detail in recent years, yet he struggles to recount memories of his mother Rose, as Hiram's father sold her off of the plantation when Hiram was a child. *The Water Dancer* is a love story as much as it is a story of the underground railroad, with Hiram's attempt to find freedom filled with betrayal, heartbreak, and loss. His attachment to his partner Sophia and his maternal figure, Thena, drive Hiram throughout the novel. Eventually, a woman with the nickname of Moses (who readers later learn is Harriet Tubman) aides Hiram, and she tells him what Winfrey claims captures the essence of the novel: "To forget is to truly slave. To forget is to die... for memory is the chariot, for memory is the the way, and memory is a bridge from the curse of slavery to to the boon of freedom."

Coates spent the last ten years conducting research for and writing *The Water Dancer*. He visited three slavery plantations, including Thomas Jefferson's estate Monticello. To give readers the most accurate depiction of the enslaved, upon each trip Coates took he wrote personal dispatches to describe what he felt during the experiences.

Some of the strengths of *The Water Dancer* are Coates's language and plot choices. For example, Coates did not refer to enslaved men and women as slaves because slavery is "not who they are, it's what is done to them." Winfrey also noted that Coates "brought to life the humanity of the enslaved" through his use of the terms "the Quality" and "the Tasked," which he coined to describe masters and the enslaved, respectively. Contrary to the often heavily used terms "masters" and "slaves," Coates eliminates the hierarchy as they were all people living in a time where some had unfair control over others, based solely on the color of their skin. Hiram's struggle with pain and the power of memory is eventually what allows him to achieve his freedom. Coates structured the plot this way to demonstrate how "in today's politics, things are rooted in forgetting and I think there is great power in remembering." Coates also argued that it is problematic that so many people today have an "à la carte" relationship with history because they only highlight the most positive parts of the past.

Winfrey chose the book because of the extreme spiritual impact that it had on her. She admitted "Early on I knew the book was going to cut me up. I ended up with my soul pierced." In her opinion, Winfrey believed that *The Water Dancer* was successful because it was "a way 'in' for people to see things in a way they had not seen before." Coates was able to emotionally immerse readers in Hiram's journey for a whole new intimate view of slavery, and even race problems we see in America today. With our extremely high rates of mass incarceration and continued microaggressions towards African Americans, Winfrey points out that in *The Water Dancer*, "Every sentence is about then but it's also about now."

Winfrey will announce her next pick for her book club on Thursday, Nov. 7.

Elias Sime, Wellin-featured artist, is honored at Smithsonian's 2019 African Art Awards

by Karina Bayrakdarian '21
A&E Editor

The Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art held its fourth annual African Art Awards on Friday, Oct. 25. Recognizing "the best in contemporary African art," the event honored the achievements of Elias Sime, the artist currently featured at the Wellin Museum of Art.

The College's presentation of *Elias Sime: Tightrope* in early September marked the artist's first major museum tour. For more than 25 years, the artist has made collage and sculptural assemblages from found objects such as stripped motherboards from mobile phones, discarded computer hardware, thread, buttons, plastic, animal skins, and organic building materials such as mud and straw. He carefully weaves, layers, and assembles these found materials into abstract compositions suggestive of aerial landscapes and color field painting. Sime looks past the emotional weighting of new versus old and instead finds renewal everywhere, taking great interest in the way that objects and ideas can connect in new ways.

Speaking on living and working with technology, Sime commented "Before, when I traveled to parts of the world, I saw people—lovers, friends—kissing or touching. A lot of physical presence. Now I don't see that. They're all engaged in the machine, not with one another. When you don't talk while looking eye to eye, how do you know one another? Or have a conversation? My work reclaims these machines in a tender way, as I am not in opposition to technology. It's about how to balance it with "real" life. We've become off-balance. My title for my series of collages, *Tightrope*, has a double meaning. It's about this equilibrium, but I also wanted it to evoke a string: if you pull it too tight, it will break."

As an extension of his artistic process, Sime is involved in the exploration of vernacular architecture. Working with curator and anthropologist Meskerem Assegued, Sime co-founded, designed, and built the award-winning Zoma Museum in Addis Ababa, an environmentally conscious international art center with facilities that include a gallery space, library, children's center, edible garden, elementary school, and art school.

The center makes it a priority to involve the local community in art projects and teaching. This includes working with street children on mural painting projects and art programs for HIV-positive children. "[Sime and Assegued] are truly at the forefront of contemporary art and contemporary happenings in Addis" said Zoma Wallace, a curator with the District of Columbia Arts Center. "With every project, idea, workshop, exhibit, they are constantly pulling in the local artists and making sure they are considered for opportunities that come to Addis so that they can have exposure to processes that they might have not yet have got to in their careers."

The National Museum of African Art featured a monumental installation of Sime's work in the museum's entry hall, which was celebrated at the African Art Awards event. After its tour at the Wellin, the *Tightrope* exhibition will subsequently travel to the Akron Art Museum in Akron, Ohio, the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Missouri, and the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRETT MOEN

Artist Elias Sime is a recipient of the 2019 African Art Award, presented by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art.

Gus Casley-Hayford, director of the National Museum of African Art, sought to recognize Sime's work, along with the work of fellow artist Njideka Akunyili Crosby, because both artists explore the interconnectivity of our world. At the heart of the museum's mission is the desire to engage visitors in the aesthetic achievements of historic and contemporary African artists. "Both [Sime and Crosby] focus on the personal and societal impact of connection as they work with materials evocative of contemporary renewal, reuse, and hybridity," said Casley-Hayford. "We are delighted to have works by these extraordinary artists on view while our museum undergoes its own process of physical renewal, and also as we share our future plans to connect more with our global audience."

Review: Bong Joon-ho's *Parasite*

by Jane Nealey '21
A&E Contributor

Parasite is a veritable hit. Having recently crossed $100 million at the international box office, the film now qualifies as director Bong Joon Ho's highest grossing film to date, surpassing his Chris Evans-helmed dystopia *Snowpiercer* from 2013. Opening in three theaters this October, the film landed the highest per-theater-average ever for a foreign language film (and 18th highest per-theater-average of all time) with a $393,216 opening weekend. *Parasite* has been one of the most-talked-about movies of the year since its premiere this summer at the Cannes Film Festival, where it became a surprise winner of the Palme d'Or, the prestigious festival's top prize.

The film is basking in near-universal critical acclaim, and currently boasts a rare 99% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. This review may run the risk of simply adding yet another voice of praise into the noise, but if there's any film that deserves this level of celebration, it's *Parasite*, one of the most rewarding, meticulous watches of the year.

The film sees Bong take a step away from high-concept English-language fare like *Snowpiercer* and his 2017 Netflix film *Okja* and away from spectacular creature-features like *The Host*; Parasite skirts his usual science fiction themes to instead examine the monsters lurking within ourselves and our own homes.

Bong has an uncanny talent for manipulating tone; each scene feels like a master class in atmospheric tension. He strikes a careful balance between crafting a genuine character piece and a home invasion thriller, taking a complicated meditation on toxic class relations and dressing it up as a smart, entertaining genre piece.

It's the kind of film you need to see in a dark theater on a big screen, if only to allow yourself to sink into its story as completely as possible. The cast is a true ensemble, with quality performances across the board that each carry the film in their own way. Leading that group is Kang-ho Song, renowned South Korean actor and frequent collaborator of Bong's, whose final scene-stealing moments are as affecting as they are impressive.

The production design of *Parasite* is virtually unparalleled, with a level of detail and care that pays off in every scene. The centerpiece of this achievement is as an entire mansion set, which Bong and his production designer conceptualized and built from the ground up. Every corner and light fixture is particularly placed to serve the story, and, as cliche as the sentiment may seem, the house itself becomes a character in the film.

Parasite is unusually difficult to discuss. It is best experienced without spoilers, but many of its discussion-worthy aspects of it are spoilers themselves. Do not let that be a deterrent, however, because it is a film that can be enjoyed on many levels. It is a genuinely fun watch, a rewarding commentary on class structures, and a study in the craft of storytelling through filmmaking. *Parasite* is an earnest and carefully crafted piece of art from a masterful director — the type of achievement that comes around only so often.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOVIE WEB

The Park and Kim families engage in inter-class conflict in the South Korean comedic thriller *Parasite* (2019).

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Thrilling week of NFL football leads to shifts in divisional standings

by Brent Schoeller '21
Staff Writer

This past weekend was very exciting for the NFL. There were numerous great games to watch, a few of which could change the landscape of the league. The most notable outcome of this past weekend was the New England Patriots' 20-37 loss to the Baltimore Ravens. The Ravens were led by their quarterback Lamar Jackson, who had two rushing touchdowns and a passing touchdown. This was surprising to many fans as the Patriots' defense has been stout all season long. To have the Ravens rip through it and score 37 points could have been a sign that the Patriots are not as invincible as they once seemed. Tom Brady and his offense were also unable to match up to the strong rushing attack of the Ravens.

The surprise team of the first half of the season has been the San Francisco 49ers, who are still boasting an undefeated 8-0 record. Similar to the Patriots, their defense has propelled them. The rookie out of Ohio State University, Nick Bosa, has led that unit, and has been one of the best defenders in the league so far.

The Patriots and the 49ers are the teams with the best records in their respective conferences being the AFC and NFC. However, both of these teams have extremely tough second-half schedules; it will be interesting to see if they can continue the momentum they have built during the first half of the season.

The two teams with the best chances to win the AFC, other than the Patriots, are the Baltimore Ravens and the Kansas City Chiefs. The Ravens have shown that they are ready for high-level competition after their convincing victory over the Patriots. Meanwhile, the Chiefs have proven repeatedly that they are the cream of the crop in the AFC. However, Patrick Mahomes has been injured since their win over the Broncos in week seven. Their offense has still been explosive, shown in a strong win over a terrific Minnesota Vikings team this past weekend. With a healthy Patrick Mahomes, the team looks to be extremely dangerous come playoff time. Each of these three teams are the leaders in their divisions, and the Houston Texans are currently leading the AFC South.

The NFC is more congested than the AFC, with about seven teams competing for the conference title. The most impressive teams, other than the 49ers, have been the Seattle Seahawks, the New Orleans Saints, and the Green Bay Packers. The Seahawks have been led by fantastic quarterback Russell Wilson, and the team is hoping to knock off the final unbeaten team in the league when they play the 49ers next week.

The Saints have battled hard; their backup Teddy Bridgewater has been playing for their regular starter Drew Brees, who returned last week, but the team did go on a five-game win streak with Bridgewater playing. The Packers have been anchored by their solid defense, stellar play from quarterback Aaron Rodgers, and the help of Aaron Jones rushing the ball. The Dallas Cowboys are the NFC East division leaders, with the Philadelphia Eagles not far behind. Both of these teams look to contend for the conference title. Also, Dalvin Cook and the Minnesota Vikings have been playing some great football, and are looking to take over from the Packers for the NFC North.

This football season has been tremendous so far, and it will hopefully become even more exciting as the season progresses and the Super Bowl becomes a realistic goal for many of these teams.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES
The Baltimore Ravens currently lead the AFC North Division.

This weekend's home game: Football

Hamilton football (4-4) will play their last game of the season at home this Saturday, Nov. 9. It is the only athletic event at Hamilton this week as most fall teams have wrapped up their seasons or will be away at playoff games. Football will go up against Bates College (1-7) and will honor this year's 14 graduating senior players. The Continentals have had a monumental season; this is the first time they have won at least four games in over 20 years. They are looking to end the 2019 season on a high note and with a positive overall record. Saturday's game will begin at 12:00 p.m. on Steuben Field.

Graduating Seniors of the Class of 2020

Captain, Sam Bowen, Defensive back (#9)
Captain, Alex Ganter, Defensive line (#99)
Captain, Kenny Gray, Quarterback (#15)
Captain, David Kagan, Running back (#30)
Joe Schmidt, Wide receiver (#3)
Carmine Bruno, Linebacker (#4)
Christian Donahoe, Wide receiver (#5)
Justin Leigh, Defensive back (#6)
Bryce Phillips, Defensive back (#12)
Zack Weinstein, Running back (#20)
Sam Robinson, Wide receiver (#26)
Pat Morelli, Linebacker (#46)
Eddie Allen, Tight end (#80)
Billy Wagner, Tight end/Punter (#89)

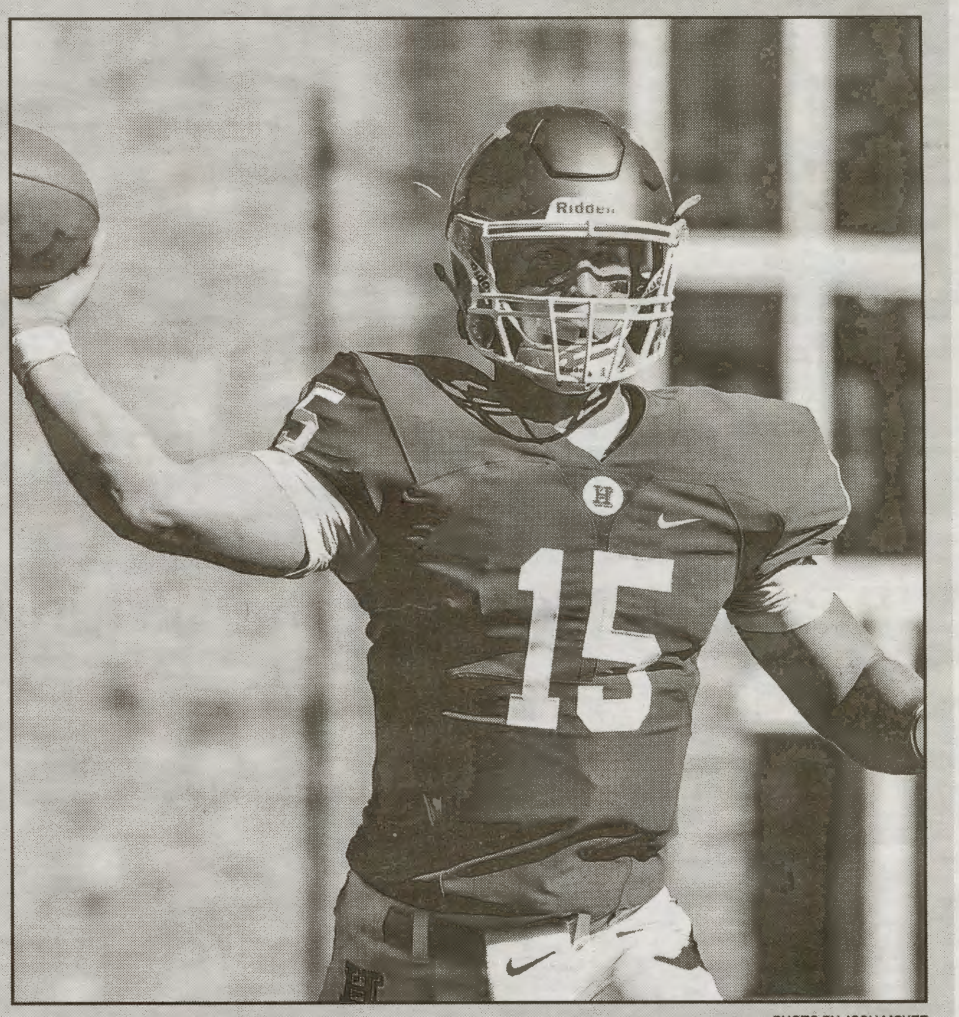

PHOTO BY JOSH MCKEE
Quarterback Kenny Gray '20 is currently averaging 180.0 passing yards a game during his final season.

Athlete of the Week: Lizzie Clarke '20

Lizzie Clarke '20 was named NESCAC Player of the Week and National Field Hockey Coaches Association Offensive Player of the Week following the two goals she scored against Bowdoin College in the NESCAC Championship quarterfinal. She is ending her senior season with five goals, eight assists and 18 total points, all of which are career highs.

Hometown:
Larchmont, N.Y.

Position:
Midfield.

Favorite Professional Athlete:
Henrik Lundqvist (New York Rangers).

How did you get introduced to field hockey?
Field hockey was a pretty popular sport in my hometown, so I grew up hearing about the high school team and going to clinics run by them, but the main reason I started playing was because my older sister did and I followed everything she did, including coming to Hamilton to play field hockey!

What is your favorite thing to do on campus besides your sport?
One of my favorite things to do on campus is attend sporting events. I have a lot of friends on many different teams and I love watching them play.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

What attracted you to Hamilton's field hockey program?
I was attracted to the Hamilton field hockey program because I really loved how the girls on the team were able to be involved in so many things outside of athletics. I also loved the overall team culture and recognized how much passion the program had as a whole, especially from watching my older sister go through it as well.

What was your favorite sports moment at Hamilton?
This past weekend's win at Bowdoin was definitely one of my favorite sports moments at Hamilton. It was a huge team win and represented how much we have grown and improved this year alone. Also, for many girls on the team, it was the first time advancing to the quarterfinals, so the excitement was very high.

What are you most looking forward to this season?
I am looking forward to getting one more shot at a NESCAC Championship!

If you weren't on the field hockey team, what Hamilton sports team would you want to be on and why?
If I wasn't on the field hockey team, I'd probably want to be on the women's lacrosse team. I played all throughout high school and love the sport, and I have a lot of friends on the team!

Men's and women's squash look to start off strong as new season nears

by Catherine McFarland '22
Sports Editor

The men's and women's squash teams look to be a force in the 2019-2020 season. The women's team is returning many players following a strong last season where they went 11-9. The team currently consists of underclassmen players until veteran juniors Eleanor Wolf '21 and Leisl Guenther '21 return from abroad in January. Sophomores Sydney Soloway '22, Ellie Struthers '22, and Maddie Sakheim '22 will lead the Continentals for the first three matches. Soloway played in the fourth and fifth positions during her first season but looks to play higher seeds this year.

While the team is young, they have fresh talent and a new outlook. Head Coach James King noted, "While it will be tough to replace the four seniors that graduated but we have some nice new players to the team that will not only add to the level of play but also the team camaraderie."

The team had four sophomores walk-on to the team this season: Ellie Arnold '22, Lila Kirchhoff '22, Daisy Sulavik '22, and Catherine McFarland '22. Newcomer Ellie Arnold said she is "really eager to get to our first match and see what we can do."

The Continentals also added Hope Worcester '23, Natalie Harrity '23, and Katie Hodulik '23 to the roster. Worcester '23 is recovering from a shoulder injury but looks to be a top player for the team this winter. Her fellow first years Natalie Harrity '23, and Katie Hodulik '23 will also be vital

*see **Squash**, page 16*

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Sydney Soloway '22 went 2-2 in the NESCAC championships last year.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
November 7, 2019

Field hockey headed to conference semifinal after upsetting Bowdoin

by Jo Dine '22
Sports Editor

Hamilton's field hockey team (9-7, 4-6 NESCAC) is headed to the NESCAC Championship semifinals after a thrilling upset over nationally-ranked No. 4 Bowdoin College (14-2, 9-1 NESCAC) on Saturday, Nov. 2. The Bowdoin College Polar Bears were seeded second in the tournament and the Continentals were seventh. Bowdoin won the teams' earlier regular season matchup in a close 3-2 overtime win. Three of the Continental's other NESCAC losses were also decided in overtime.

Hamilton's coach, Missy Mariano, noted, "Even with so many overtime games, this group never lost their enthusiasm or drive to succeed and it paid off over the last third of our season."

After a tough early stretch, the team's fight and ambition finally started to show; following their regular season loss to Bowdoin on Oct. 5, they won five of their six following games. With their crucial quarterfinal win this past Saturday, they have now won five games in a row and are determined to win another.

The quarterfinal match remained scoreless until over 40 minutes of play had passed and Bowdoin got the ball past Hamilton goalie Maggie Reville '22, who had already made five of her seven total saves at that point. Reville currently leads the conference in both total saves (120) and save percentage (.811).

With only four minutes left in the hard-fought game, captain Lizzie Clarke '20 made a penalty shot to tie the score 1-1. Around two minutes later, she scored again from around the top of the arc; Maura Holden '23 assisted the critical game-winning goal.

This is the first time the Continentals have made it to the NESCAC semifinals since the 2016 season. For the past two years in a row, they have lost in the quarterfinals to Trinity College. The team is undoubtedly excited and prepared for their very real shot at a conference championship.

When asked what has contributed to the team's gritty success this season, Coach Mariano said, "Our 2019 team has brought such a positive dynamic to the field each and every day. Their willingness to work hard and learn has been a true joy to coach. Being a younger team, the rate of improvement throughout the season has been phenomenal."

Mariano also mentioned the significant influence of the two seniors and captains, Clarke and Michaela Giuttari '20: "Both Lizzie and Michaela have done an amazing job leading this program both on and off the field. Their work ethic, devotion to the team, and knowledge of the game have set the standard for their younger teammates to emulate this season and into the future."

Clarke's performance in the first-round game earned her honors as both the NESCAC Player of the Week and the National Field Hockey Coaches Association Offensive Player of the Week. Giuttari recently broke two all-time program records in career goals and points scored. The two are evidently hoping to lead their team, as they have all season, to a semifinal win against Middlebury College in Middlebury, V.T. on Saturday, Nov. 9.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

The field hockey team upset second-seeded Bowdoin College with a 2-1 quarterfinal win that featured two last-minute goals.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Lizzie Clarke '20 scored both of Hamilton's goals in crunch time to propel the team to a thrilling win against Bowdoin.

Squash poised for success, expects contributions from all class years

*from **Squash**, page 15*

additions to the team. The women have their home opener on Nov. 16 against top-rated Middlebury College at the Little Squash Center.

The men's team is likely to improve this winter after going 4-14 in their 2018-2019 season. The men gained both a talented first-year class and seniors that returned from abroad. The team is led by a 5-man senior class consisting of Tristan Chaix '20, Nick Conzelman '20, Jarrod Gerstein '20, Callum Sondhi '20, and Will Jordan '20. Sondhi played first position for the Continentals last season and advanced to the quarterfinals of the CSA National Individual Championships. Sophomore Rufus Somerby '22, who played third position last season, also looks to be a force for the men this year. However, the strong first-year class will also compete for some of the top spots in the ladder. Head Coach James King said the team has "a number of talented freshmen that will add to the strength of our team this season."

One first-year expected to make an immediate impact is Tate Suratt '23, who is ranked number 155 of all adult men by U.S. Squash. He is joined by Aaron Hadar '23, Tripp Peters '23, Owen Routhier '23, and Chris Lucero '23. Hadar noted that he is "excited to compete and see how the team fairs this season." The men will also their first match against Middlebury at home on Saturday, Nov. 16.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

Callum Sondhi '20 and Rufus Somerby '22 will each vie for top positions on the court for the Continentals this winter after recording strong campaigns during the 2018-19 academic year.